THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Sir, if the pesticides are used as per Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), their residues do not persist in food crops.

(b) and (c) The following steps are being taken/proposed to be taken to reduce pesticides residues:—

1. The Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 grants registration to an insecticide after satisfying itself on the basis of the comprehensive data on safety to human being and its efficacy against concerned pest without leaving toxic residue in food commodities at harvest.

2. The Registration Committee while granting a certificate of registration also attach a set of approved labels and leaflets which contain details regarding proper use of insecticide like proper doses, time, method of application, type of equipment to be used and interval between the application of pesticide and harvest so that there should be no toxic residues at the time of harvest in food commodities.

3. The Government is implementing Integrated Pest Management Programme for pest control which inter-alia focusses on adoption of suitable cultural and mechanical practices, use of botanical and biopesticides, use of biocontrole agents and judicious use of chemical pesticides based on economic threshold level of pests.

Production of Wheat in Madhya Pradesh

1695. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Madhya Pradesh produces the best quality of wheat in the country;

(b) if so, what was the production of wheat in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a gradual reduction in the production of wheat in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government proposes to take to increase the production of wheat in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Madhya Pradesh is one of the States which is producing farm varieties of wheat.

(b) The production of wheat during the last three years in Madhya Pradesh is as follows:—

(in '000 tonnes)

1991-92	5138.0
1992-93	5242.6
1993-94	6160.5

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) For increasing the productivity and production of wheat in the State, crop oriented production programme viz. Integrated Cereals Development Programme—Wheat is being implemented. Besides, programmes for inreasing the use of fertiliser in low consumption areas and extension of irrigation facilities are being implemented to improve the production of crop.

Development of Agriculture in Madhya Pradesh

1696. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for sustained development of agriculture on a long term basis in the state of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) what are the details thereof?